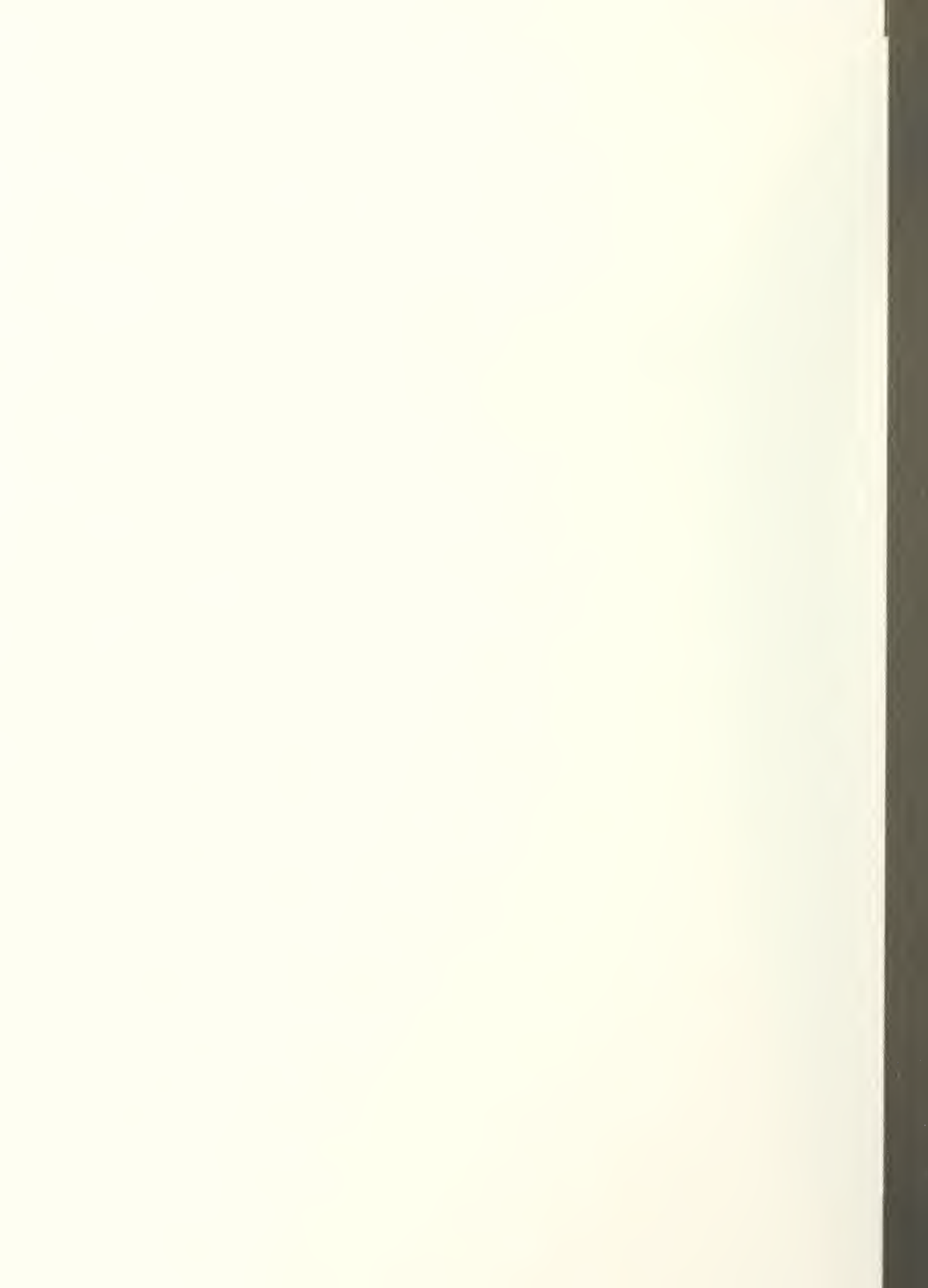


Q.

363.7
G918x





Illinois
Environmental
Protection Agency

6918x
Bureau of Water
Post Office Box 19276
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

June 2002

Groundwater Protection Program

BACKGROUND

Illinois recognizes the essential and pervasive role of groundwater in the social and economic well-being of the people of Illinois, and its vital importance to the general health, safety and welfare. In support of these goals the Illinois EPA conducts a groundwater protection program with a mission of restoring, protecting and enhancing the state's groundwater as a natural and public resource. The program derives much of its authority from the 1987 Illinois Groundwater Protection Act (IGPA). The IGPA emphasizes a prevention-oriented process.

COORDINATION & BIENNIAL REPORTING

The IGPA established the Groundwater Advisory Council (GAC). The GAC is composed of nine public members appointed by the governor, including environmental interests, industrial and commercial interests, representing agricultural interests, local government interests, regional planning agency interests, public water supplies, and water well driller industry. The governor's office recently tasked the GAC with evaluating quantity issues and policies. The IGPA also required the creation of the Interagency Coordination Committee on Groundwater (ICCG). The Committee is chaired by the Illinois EPA and has members from 10 state agencies/departments which have some jurisdiction over groundwater. The ICCG continues to review, update, and implement a strategic plan and report biennially pursuant to the IGPA.

REGIONAL GROUNDWATER PROTECTION & PLANNING

In 1991 the Illinois EPA established a regional groundwater protection planning program in cooperation with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). These regional designations took into account the location of recharge areas mapped by DNR. The Director of Illinois EPA has established a planning committee for each region based on grass roots input.

AMBIENT MONITORING

The Illinois EPA continues to operate an ambient network of community water supply (CWS) wells consisting of 362 fixed locations. The CWS network is designed to: provide an overview of the groundwater conditions in the CWS wells in Illinois; provide an overview of the groundwater conditions in the major aquifers in Illinois; establish baselines of water quality within the major aquifers in Illinois; identify trends in groundwater quality in the major aquifers in Illinois; and evaluate the long term effectiveness of Clean Water Act, and Safe Drinking Water Act program activities in protecting groundwater in Illinois.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT & PROTECTION

The Illinois EPA is implementing a source water assessment program (SWAP) to assist with wellhead and watershed protection of public drinking water supplies. County and municipal governments can access this data dynamically and download it locally through a secured Intranet Geographic Information System.

GROUNDWATER REGULATIONS

The Illinois EPA has developed groundwater standards, technology control, regulated recharge area, and minimal hazard certification regulations (see <http://www.epa.state.il.us/water/rules-regulation.html#groundwater>)

CONTACT

For further information on the groundwater protection program, please contact the Groundwater Section, Division of Public Water Supplies, Bureau of Water at 217/785-4787.

UNIVERSITY OF
ILLINOIS LIBRARY
AT URBANA CHAMPAIGN
BOOKSTACKS



UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS-URBANA



3 0112 059872355